



HOUSE BILL 812: Grant Recipients Posted on Grantor Web Site

2015-2016 General Assembly

Committee:	Senate Information Technology	Date:	June 10, 2015
Introduced by:	Reps. Riddell, Saine, Bradford, Bishop	Prepared by:	Susan Sitze*
Analysis of:	Second Edition		Committee Counsel

SUMMARY: *House Bill 812 would amend the law that authorizes NC OpenBook, the State's searchable website on spending for grants and contracts, to ensure that information on grant funds awarded by State agencies is readily available on the agencies' websites. The bill also directs the State Chief Information Officer to ensure that the information is displayed on all agency websites in a consistent and accessible manner by December 31, 2015.*

CURRENT LAW: The Office of State Budget and Management, with support from the Office of Information Technology Services, maintains a database and website which provides a single searchable site on State spending on grants and contracts, known as NC OpenBook.

Under current law, the heads of the principal departments of State government are required to conduct a monthly review of all the grants and contracts administered by their departments. The principal departments are the Governor's cabinet agencies and the Community College System. In addition, all State government entities that are subject to the authority of the Director of the Budget and have a website are required to include an access link to the NC OpenBook website on their home page.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 812 amends the law to require that all State institutions, departments, bureaus, agencies, or commissions conduct a review of their State grants and contracts, not just the principal departments, and changes the frequency of that review to a quarterly review instead of a monthly review.

Section 2 of the bill directs the State Chief Information Officer to ensure that information on grants and contracts is displayed in a consistent and accessible manner on all State entity websites by December 31, 2015. The State Chief Information Officer is also directed to report to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Information Technology and the Fiscal Research Division before August 1, 2015, on a time line for implementing the act.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act is effective when it becomes law.

**Karen Cochrane-Brown, Staff Attorney, contributed substantially to this summary.*

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